

Monday, 5 May 1952

PRESENT: Messrs. Dulles, Wisner, Becker, Hedden, [ ] Colonel White

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Mr. Dulles:

a. Stated he wished to see [ ] prior to his return. (NOTE: [ ] arranged with Mr. Dulles' secretary to make this appointment at such time as would also be convenient for DD/P to see [ ])

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b. Noted that he had received a copy of a letter Mike Cowles had sent to the Director concerning an article Cowles wanted John Gunther to do on CIA. [ ] showed D/DCI a copy of the Director's reply to this letter which indicated that he (the Director) had agreed to talk to Gunther and also have him see D/DCI and "other executives" regarding the above-mentioned article "within the limits of security" and "provided we were given opportunity to review the article in question prior to its being published".

c. Briefly discussed the [ ] project and noted he would, at the Director's request, discuss this project further with the DCI. In this connection, Mr. Hedden noted that there was some difference of opinion between certain of our senior officials as to whether this project was warranted. After some further discussion, Mr. Dulles stated he desired additional information on the above-mentioned disagreement prior to taking this project up with the Director. In connection with his memorandum prepared on this project, Mr. Hedden stated that the "pros and cons" contained therein were by and large taken from memoranda submitted by other officials of the Agency.

Mr. Wisner:

a. Briefly reported on our recent discussions with [ ] and noted that (1) the meetings had gone well; (2) [ ] had come about 60% forward to our way of thinking; (3) complete minutes were not prepared; however, a record had been maintained covering the main points, decisions, and conclusions; (4) [ ] who appeared to be well satisfied with the results of these conferences, had asked to see the Director some time within the next two weeks. (NOTE: [ ] will arrange the appointment.)

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c. Raised the question of sending [ ] to Europe as a covert [ ] for possibly a year. Mr. Dulles stated he thought this a good idea but believed the time should be cut to about eight months.

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Mr. Wisner (Cont'd.)

d. Referred to the special PRC Meeting to consider NCFA and noted that  
(1) in his opinion, NCFA was attempting to initially lay on too many projects;  
(2) he believed the whole program would benefit by [redacted] taking separate trips to the Far East to look over the situation on the ground.  
Mr. Hedden stated that in all fairness a number of the suggested projects had come from our own people and he had advised [redacted] that these suggestions should be taken as such and not as directives that the projects in question should be, in fact, implemented since orders for implementation "would come from the top".

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Mr. Hedden:

a. Noted that the Bureau of Standards was conducting research on surveillance equipment and suggested that [redacted] contact a [redacted] in regard to this equipment and other research which he (Mr. Hedden) believed would be of interest to CIA.

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